

NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR LETTERS PATENT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Be it known that I, **JAMES CONERTON**, residing at **355 Wynland Trace, Atlanta, GA 30350**, a citizen of the United States, have invented certain new and useful improvements in a

15 **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR STORING ELECTRONICS**

of which the following is a specification.

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APPARATUS AND METHOD STORING ELECTRONICS

TECHNICAL FIELD

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The present invention relates generally to furniture, and more specifically to an air ventilated apparatus for storing and/or displaying electronic devices, wherein the apparatus provides vent cutouts for cable management and
10 for convectively cooling electronic devices stored therein.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 With the innovation and development of electronic multimedia devices, the current trend amongst consumers is to integrate a variety of such electronic audio-visual devices into home entertainment systems. Audio equipment, such as radio tuners, cassette players, compact disc (CD) players and recorders, MP3 players, and surround sound systems with speakers, are commonly incorporated into
20 entertainment systems. Video cassette recorders (VCRs),

digital video disc (DVD) players and recorders, cable boxes, satellite dishes, video games, laptop computers and various other electronic visual accessories and equipment are also commonly utilized in association with television
5 monitors.

Various structures are available for facilitating the management, storage and organization of such audio-visual equipment and accessories. Unfortunately, due to the
10 inherent release of heat from such electronic devices, and the relatively confined area of the structure in which the electronic devices may reside, overheating of the electronic devices often occurs, and thus, the electronic failure of same.

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Accordingly, numerous structures for storing and displaying electronics have been developed in an attempt to thermally control the internal environment of the structure, and thus reduce overheating of electronic
20 equipment housed therein. Many such structures, however, are often wide open shelves that do not enclose or conceal the electronic devices, thereby exposing them to dust, heat from direct sunlight, and other elements that may affect

equipment performance or operation. Still other structures, utilize electric fans to vent out or expel warm air from within the structure. Although advantageous, electric fans are often overly expensive, require an energy source, and are a source of noise in a system where optimal sound quality is of the utmost significance. Electric fans are also susceptible to electrical failure or breakage, and can be costly or difficult to repair or replace.

10 The combination of multiple electronic devices also results in multiple wires and/or cables to connect and power the electronic devices. Unfortunately, and in view of available storage units, cables and wires often become entangled with one another, resulting in a clutter of wires 15 and cables, and presenting a potential electrical hazard.

Therefore, it is readily apparent that there is a need for an apparatus for storing, organizing and/or displaying electronic equipment, wherein cables and wires are 20 accordingly managed, and wherein the internal environment of the apparatus is appropriately thermally cooled to prevent overheating of the electronic devices stored therein.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Briefly described, in a preferred embodiment, the present invention overcomes the above-mentioned disadvantages and meets the recognized need for such a device by providing an air-ventilated apparatus for storing, managing and displaying electronic equipment and devices, wherein vent cutouts are provided for cable management and for convectively cooling the stored electronic devices.

According to its major aspects and broadly stated, the present invention in its preferred form is an apparatus for storing, managing and displaying electronic equipment and devices, generally comprising a base member, cabinet member and hutch member. More specifically, the present invention comprises a cabinet member for storing and/or displaying electronic devices, wherein lower cutouts are disposed on a bottom front portion of the cabinet member, and wherein upper cutouts are disposed on a top rear portion of the cabinet member to maximize convective airflow over a greater area within the cabinet member. The base member is provided to elevate the cabinet member to allow cooler,

denser air to be convectively drawn into the lower cutouts, wherein the cooler air is convectively drawn over the electronic devices stored within the cabinet member to effectively cool same. More specifically, heat produced
5 by and rising from the stored electronic devices is convectively intermixed with the cooler air introduced within the cabinet member, thereby yielding a warmer air. Thereafter, the warmer air is preferably expelled out of the cabinet member through the upper cutouts via overall
10 convective circulation of air therewithin and therethroughout. The cabinet member also possesses shelves and a vertical divider, each having cutouts to further maximize airflow within the cabinet member.

15 The hutch member is provided for the storage and display of electronic devices, particularly audio speakers and a plasma display screen, wherein cooler air is convectively drawn into the hutch member through an open bottom portion, and wherein the cooler air is convectively
20 drawn over the stored electronic devices to cool same. Warm air produced by the electronic devices is permitted to ventilate out of the hutch member through top cutouts.

Accordingly, a feature and advantage of the present invention is its ability to store, manage, display and/or conceal various electronic devices within a single apparatus and to facilitate accessibility of same.

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Another feature and advantage of the present invention is its unique combination and configuration of components that permit optimal convective airflow to thermally cool stored electronic devices, thereby prolonging the life of
10 the stored electronic devices.

Another feature and advantage of the present invention is its ability to thermally cool stored electronic devices, thereby enabling a user to incorporate a greater number of
15 electronic devices into a smaller area.

Another feature and advantage of the present invention is its ability to thermally cool stored electronic devices without the need for conventional electric fans.

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Another feature and advantage of the present invention are its ventilation cutouts that also serve as a means for managing cables and/or wires.

These and other features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent to one skilled in the art from the following description and claims when read in light of the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will be better understood by reading the Detailed Description of the Preferred and Selected Alternate Embodiments with reference to the accompanying drawing figures, in which like reference numerals denote similar structure and refer to like elements throughout, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a front perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a front perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention showing a cabinet member with open doors;

FIG. 3 is a top perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a bottom perspective view of a preferred 5 embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

10 **FIG. 6** is a rear perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

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FIG. 8 is a front perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

20 **FIG. 9** is a front perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention showing a cabinet member with open doors;

FIG. 10 is a front perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention, showing a projector screen in the down position;

5 **FIG. 11** is a side perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 12 is a top perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

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FIG. 13 is a bottom perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

15 **FIG. 14** is a rear perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED

AND SELECTED ALTERNATIVE EMBODIMENTS

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In describing the preferred and selected alternate embodiments of the present invention, as illustrated in

FIGS. 1-15, specific terminology is employed for the sake of clarity. The invention, however, is not intended to be limited to the specific terminology so selected, and it is to be understood that each specific element includes all 5 technical equivalents that operate in a similar manner to accomplish similar functions.

Referring now to **FIGS. 1-8**, the present invention in a preferred embodiment is an apparatus **10** for the storage, 10 management and display of electronic equipment and devices, wherein apparatus **10** generally comprises base member **20**, cabinet member **40** and hutch member **240**. Preferably, base member **20** is substantially a rectangular-shaped block possessing top wall **22**, front wall **24**, rear wall **26**, and 15 sidewalls **28** and **30**, wherein top wall **22**, front wall **24**, rear wall **26**, and sidewalls **28** and **30** are affixed together by nails, screws, bolts, dowels, adhesive, or the like, to collectively form base member **20**. Base member **20** preferably possesses open bottom **32**; however, it is 20 recognized that base member **20**, in an alternate embodiment, could possess a solid bottom wall, wherein base member **20** would then effectively be a six-sided rectangular block. It is further recognized in an alternate embodiment that

base member **20** could possess wheels to roll apparatus **10** across a ground surface.

It is contemplated that base member **20** and its
5 component parts, in an alternate embodiment, could embody other suitable shapes and or sizes, so long as base member **20** is capable of supporting cabinet member **40** and hutch member **240** thereon, and so long as air is permitted to be convectively drawn through bottom cutouts formed through
10 cabinet member **40**, as more fully described below. Base member **20** is preferably formed from wood; however, it is recognized that base member **20** could be formed from other suitable materials, such as, for exemplary purposes only, high density particle board, metal, or other strong, rigid
15 materials.

Preferably, cabinet member **40** is a hollow rectangular-shaped block having four walls and two open sides. Specifically, cabinet member **40** possesses bottom wall **42**,
20 top wall **44**, sidewalls **46** and **48**, open front side **41** and open rear side **43**, wherein bottom wall **42**, top wall **44**, and sidewalls **46** and **48** are affixed together by nails, screws, bolts, dowels, adhesive, or the like, to collectively form

cabinet member **40**. It is recognized that cabinet member **40** and its component parts could alternatively embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as cabinet member **40** and its component parts are capable of convectively cooling stored electronic devices, as more fully described below.

Cabinet member **40** is preferably formed from wood; however, it is contemplated that cabinet member **40** could be formed from other suitable materials, such as, for exemplary purposes only, high density particle board, metal, or other strong, rigid materials.

Bottom sides **47** and **48** (not shown) of sidewalls **46** and **48**, respectively, of cabinet member **40** are preferably connected to top sides **29** and **31** (not shown) of sidewalls **28** and **30**, respectively, of base member **20** by nails; however, it is recognized that other suitable fasteners could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only, glues, rivets, bolts, screws, dowels, or the like. It is further contemplated that cabinet member **40** could be connected to base member **20** at alternately suitable connection points, or that base member **20** could be integrally formed to cabinet member **40**, wherein base member **20** and cabinet member **40** could share a common horizontal

wall, so long as air is permitted to be convectively drawn through bottom cutouts formed through cabinet member **40**, as more fully described below.

5 Preferably, bottom wall **42** of cabinet member **40** is rectangular-shaped and comprises top side **56** and front portion **50**, wherein front portion **50** possesses two equally spaced-apart rectangular cutouts **52**. It is contemplated in an alternate embodiment that bottom wall **42** could possess
10 any number and layout of cutouts **52**, wherein cutouts **52** could embody any suitable shapes and/or sizes so long as cutouts **52** permit air to be convectively drawn into cabinet member **40**, as more fully described below.

15 It is further contemplated in an alternate embodiment that base member **20** and cabinet member **40** could share a common horizontal wall at their connection point, so long as open air is permitted to be convectively drawn into cutouts **52**, as more fully described below. Top side **56** of
20 bottom wall **42** preferably functions as a shelf for supporting and storing electronics and other related devices for use with an audio visual display system. Top

side **56** also preferably possesses rear portion **58** for receiving a securing block, as more fully described below.

Top wall **44** of cabinet member **40** is preferably rectangular-shaped and comprises top side **60**, bottom side **62** and rear portion **64**, wherein rear portion **64** preferably possesses two equally spaced-apart rectangular cutouts **66**. It is recognized that top wall **44** could possess any number and layout of cutouts **66**, wherein cutouts **66** could embody any suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as cutouts **66** provide a means for managing and organizing, electrical conductors, cables and/or wires, and so long as cutouts **66** permit air to ventilate out from cabinet member **40**, as more fully described below.

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Preferably, bottom side **62** possesses attachment sites **61**, **63** and **65** for receiving securing blocks, as more fully described below, wherein attachment sites **61**, **63** and **65** are positioned directly adjacent to open rear side **43**, and wherein attachment site **61** is positioned adjacent to sidewall **46**, attachment site **65** is positioned adjacent to sidewall **48**, and attachment site **63** is positioned directly between sidewalls **46** and **48**. Hutch member **240** is

preferably mounted to top side **60**, as more fully described below.

Sidewalls **46** and **48** of cabinet member **40** are
5 preferably rectangular-shaped and permit the enclosure and
retention of electronics and other related devices for use
with an audio visual display system. Preferably, sidewalls
46 and **48** possess inner walls **70** and **72**, respectively,
wherein inner walls **70** and **72** possess lower attachment
10 sites **74** and **76**, respectively, and upper attachment sites
78 and **79**, respectively, for receiving securing blocks, as
more fully described below. Inner walls **70** and **72** also
preferably possess a plurality of peg holes **71** (not shown)
for purposes more fully described below.

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Rear side **43** of cabinet member **40** is preferably open,
thereby enabling apparatus **10** to stand flush against a wall
surface without having to accommodate for electrical
outlets and/or electrical plugs. However, it is recognized
20 that cabinet member **40** could alternatively possess solid
rear wall **45**, wherein solid rear wall **45** is rectangular-
shaped and encloses and retains electronics and other
related devices for use with an audio visual display system

within cabinet member **40**. As best seen in **FIG. 14**, rear wall **45** possesses three vertical columns of cutouts **49**, wherein each column possesses two rectangular cutouts **49**; however, it is recognized that rear wall **45** could possess 5 any number and layout of any sized and shaped cutouts **49**, so long as cutouts **49** function to manage cables and/or wires and permit convective airflow within cabinet member **40**. Now referring to **FIG. 8**, it is further contemplated in another alternate embodiment that at least one cutout **49** on 10 rear wall **45** and at least one cutout **66** on top wall **44** could be combined to form at least one cutout **67**, wherein at least one cutout **67** is disposed on horizontal edge **68** formed between rear side **43** and top wall **44**.

15 Cabinet member **40** also preferably possesses wooden rectangular securing blocks **80**, **110**, **112** and **114**. It is recognized that securing blocks **80**, **110**, **112** and **114** could alternatively embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes and could be formed from other alternatively suitable 20 materials, so long as securing blocks **80**, **110**, **112** and **114** are preferably capable of securing cabinet member **40** to a wall surface, as more fully described below. It is further contemplated that cabinet member **40** could possess any

number of securing blocks situated at any position on cabinet member **40**, so long as apparatus **10** is stable enough to firmly stand in place without significant tilt or lean.

5 Preferably, securing block **80** is an elongated rectangular block having front side **82** (not shown), rear side **84**, top side **86**, bottom side **88** (not shown), left side **90** (not shown) and right side **92** (not shown), wherein bottom side **88** is mounted to rear portion **58** of bottom wall
10 **42** of cabinet member **40**, left side **90** is mounted to lower attachment site **74** of sidewall **46** of cabinet member **40**, and right side **92** is mounted to lower attachment site **76** of sidewall **48** of cabinet member **40**. Securing block **80** is preferably secured to cabinet member **40** by nails; however
15 it is recognized that other suitable fasteners could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only, glue, screws, bolts, rivets, dowels, or the like.

Preferably, formed within securing block **80** are six
20 equally spaced-apart channels **94**, wherein channels **94** form apertures **96** (not shown) and recesses **98** (not shown) on front side **82** of securing block **80** for receiving mounting screws therein, and wherein channels **94** form apertures **102**

on rear side **84** of securing block **80** for securing cabinet member **40** to a wall surface. Although it is preferred that screws be utilized to attach securing block **80** to a wall surface, it is recognized that other alternatively suitable 5 fasteners could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only, nails, bolts, rivets, anchors, brackets, or the like. Further, although it is preferred that securing block **80** possess six equally spaced-apart channels **94**, it is recognized that securing block **80** could possess any 10 number of channels **94** situated at any position on securing block **80**, so long as apparatus **10** is stable enough to firmly stand in place without significant tilt or lean.

Preferably, securing blocks **110**, **112** and **114** are 15 rectangular blocks having front sides **120**, **122** and **124** (not shown), respectively, rear sides **130**, **132** and **134**, respectively, top sides **140**, **142** and **144** (not shown), respectively, bottom sides **150**, **152** and **154** (not shown), respectively, left sides **160**, **162** and **164** (not shown), 20 respectively, and right sides **170**, **172** and **174** (not shown), respectively. Preferably, left side **160** of securing block **110** is mounted to attachment site **78** of sidewall **46**, top side **140** of securing block **110** is mounted to attachment

site 61 of top wall 44; top side 142 of securing block 112 is mounted to attachment site 63 of top wall 44; and, right side 174 of securing block 114 is mounted to attachment site 79 of sidewall 48, and top side 144 of securing block 5 114 is mounted to attachment site 65 of top wall 44. Securing blocks 110, 112 and 114 are preferably secured to cabinet member 40 by nails; however it is recognized that other suitable fasteners could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only, glue, screws, bolts, rivets, 10 dowels, or the like.

Preferably formed within securing blocks 110, 112 and 114 are equally spaced-apart channels 180 and 181, wherein channels 180 and 181 form apertures 182 and 183, 15 respectively, and recesses 184 and 185 (not shown), respectively, on front sides 120, 122 and 124 of securing blocks 110, 112 and 114, respectively, for receiving mounting screws therein, and wherein channels 180 and 181 form apertures 188 and 189 (not shown), respectively, on 20 rear sides 130, 132 and 134 of securing blocks 110, 112 and 114, respectively, for securing cabinet member 40 to a wall surface. Although it is preferred that screws be utilized to attach securing blocks 110, 112 and 114 to a wall

surface, it is recognized that other suitable fasteners could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only, nails, bolts, rivets, anchors, brackets, or the like. Further, it is recognized that securing blocks **110**, **112** and **114** could possess any number of channels, situated at any position on securing blocks **110**, **112** and **114**, so long as apparatus **10** is stable enough to firmly stand in place without significant tilt or lean.

10 Preferably, cabinet member **40** also possesses wooden vertical divider **190**, wherein vertical divider **190** comprises first end **192** and second end **194**. Vertical divider **190** is preferably substantially centered between sidewall **46** and **48**, wherein first end **192** is preferably affixed to bottom wall **42**, and wherein second end **194** is preferably affixed to top wall **44**. It is recognized that cabinet member **40**, in an alternate embodiment, could possess any number of vertical dividers **190** and that vertical dividers **190** could be located at any vertical position within cabinet member **40**. Vertical divider **190** is preferably affixed to top wall **44** by nails; however, it is recognized that other suitable fasteners could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only glue, brackets,

grooves, screws, rivets, bolts, dowels, or the like. It is further contemplated that vertical divider **190** could be formed from other alternatively suitable materials and could embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as 5 vertical divider **190** is capable of supporting shelves, as more fully described below.

Preferably, vertical divider **190** possesses substantially centered rectangular cutout **196**. It is 10 recognized that cutout **196** could alternatively embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as cutout **196** assists convective airflow within cabinet member **40**. It is further contemplated that vertical divider **190** could alternatively possess any number of cutouts **196**, and that cutout **196** 15 could be located anywhere along vertical divider **190**. Vertical divider **190** also preferably possesses a plurality of peg holes **71** (not shown) for purposes more fully described below.

20 Preferably, cabinet member **40** also possesses at least one shelf **200**, wherein shelf **200** is substantially rectangular-shaped and comprises front end **202**, back end **204**, left end **206** (not shown) and right end **208** (not

shown). It is recognized that shelf **200** could be formed from alternatively suitable materials and could embody alternate shapes and/or sizes, so long as shelf **200** is capable of supporting electronics and other related devices
5 for use with an audio-visual display system thereon, and so long as shelf **200** assists convective airflow within cabinet member **40**, as more fully described below. For example, shelf **200**, in an alternate embodiment, could be a grid or mesh panel.

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Preferably, semi-circle cutouts **210**, **212** and **214** are substantially centered on back end **204**, left end **206** and right end **208**, respectively, of shelf **200**. It is recognized that cutouts **210**, **212** (not shown) and **214** could
15 alternatively embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as cutouts **210**, **212** and **214** assist convective airflow within cabinet member **40**. Furthermore, it is contemplated that shelf **200** could alternatively possess any number of cutouts, wherein the cutouts could be located anywhere on
20 shelf **200** and in any selected configuration/pattern.

Preferably, at least one shelf **200** is removably secured between vertical divider **190** and sidewall **46** and/or

between vertical divider **190** and sidewall **48**, wherein at least one shelf **200** is slideably engaged and supported therebetween by a plurality of support pegs **220** (not shown) retained within and extending from peg holes **71** (not shown), as is known within the art. Preferably, vertical divider **190** and inner walls **70** and **72** of sidewalls **46** and **48**, respectively, each possess four vertically-aligned, equally spaced-apart, and horizontally-disposed pairs of peg holes **71**, wherein each pair of peg holes **71** is 10 horizontally aligned with a corresponding pair of peg holes **71**, either on vertical divider **190**, sidewall **46** or sidewall **48**, and wherein the peg hole system functions to removably support and secure at least one shelf **200** between vertical divider **190** and sidewall **46** and/or between vertical divider 15 **190** and sidewall **48**.

It is contemplated in an alternate embodiment that vertical divider **190** and inner walls **70** and **72** could comprise any number and layout of peg holes **71** to facilitate support of any selected number of shelves **200** on and by pegs **220** extending from peg holes **71**. Furthermore, although it is preferred that cabinet member **40** utilize support pegs **220** to removably support and secure any

selected number of shelves **200** thereon, it is recognized that other alternatively suitable supports could be utilized, such as, for exemplary purposes only, glue, brackets, grooves, rails, nails, screws, bolts, rivets, 5 dowels, and the like.

Front side **41** of cabinet member **40** is preferably open to facilitate receipt and retention of electronics and other related devices therein, wherein front side **41** 10 preferably possesses doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236**. Doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** are preferably rectangular-shaped and formed from wood; however it is recognized that doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** could be formed from other suitable materials, such as, for exemplary purposes only, glass, 15 high density particle board, or metal, and that doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** could alternatively embody other suitable shapes and/ or sizes, so long as doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** function to enclose and retain electronics and other related devices therein for use with an audio-visual 20 display system within cabinet member **40**, or otherwise. Preferably, doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** are identically-sized and identically-shaped, wherein doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** extend from bottom wall **42** to top wall **44**; however,

it is contemplated that cabinet member **40** could possess any number and layout of doors. Preferably, doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** are pivotally mounted to front side **41** by a pair of hinges **240** (not shown), wherein hinges **240** are any suitable door hinges known within the art, so long as hinges **240** are capable of pivotally mounting doors **230**, **232**, **234** and **236** to cabinet member **40** to permit the opening and closing of same.

10 Hutch member **240** preferably generally comprises top wall **242**, rear wall **244**, and sidewalls **246** and **248**, wherein top wall **242**, rear wall **244**, and sidewalls **246** and **248** are affixed together by nails, screws, bolts, dowels, adhesive, or the like, to collectively form hutch member **240**. Hutch
15 member **240** preferably possesses open front side **250** and open bottom side **252**, wherein open bottom side **252** is mounted over cutouts **66** of cabinet member **40**; however, it is contemplated in an alternate embodiment that hutch member **240** could comprise a solid bottom wall (not shown),
20 so long as the bottom wall possesses at least one cutout (not shown) for accommodating cutouts **66** of cabinet member **40**. Furthermore, it is contemplated that hutch member **240** and its component parts could alternatively embody other

suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as hutch member **240** and its component parts are capable of convectively cooling electronic devices stored therein, as more fully described below.

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Hutch member **240** is preferably formed from wood; however, it is recognized that hutch member **240** could be formed from other alternatively suitable materials, such as, for exemplary purposes only, high density particle 10 board, metal, or other strong, rigid materials.

Preferably, hutch member **240** is mounted to cabinet member **40** by wood screws; however, it is contemplated that other alternatively suitable attachment means known within the art could be employed, such as, for exemplary purposes 15 only, a peg and peg hole system, a groove system, brackets, nails, bolts, rivets, dowels, and the like.

Preferably, top wall **242** of hutch member **240** is rectangular-shaped and possesses two equally spaced-apart 20 rectangular cutouts **260**. It is contemplated that top wall **242** could possess any number and layout of cutouts **260**, wherein cutouts **260** could embody any suitable size or shape, so long as cutouts **260** permit air to ventilate out

from hutch member **240**, as more fully described below. It is further contemplated in an alternate embodiment that top wall **242** could embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, or that hutch member **240** could lack top wall **242**.

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Preferably, rear wall **244** of hutch member **240** is rectangular-shaped; however, it is contemplated in an alternate embodiment that rear wall **244** could embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, or that hutch member **240** 10 could lack rear wall **244**. Preferably disposed and generally centered on rear wall **244** are mounting holes **270**, wherein mounting holes **270** are configured to receive mounting plate **272** (not shown) and mounting screws **274** (not shown). Mounting plate **272** is preferably a plate or 15 bracket for securing a plasma display screen to a wall surface. Mounting screws **274** preferably function to secure a plasma display screen to mounting plate **272**, mounting plate **272** to rear wall **244**, and rear wall **244** to a wall surface.

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Sidewalls **246** and **248** of hutch member **240** are preferably rectangular-shaped and permit the enclosure and retention of a plasma display screen within hutch member

240. Front side **250** of hutch member **240** is preferably open to receive and retain a plasma display screen therein, wherein front side **250** preferably possesses door **280**. Door **280** is preferably generally rectangular-shaped and formed 5 from wood; however it is recognized that door **280** could be formed from other suitable materials and could embody other suitable shapes and/or sizes, so long as door **280** functions to enclose and retain a plasma display screen within hutch member **240**. It is further recognized that front side **250** 10 could alternatively possess any number of doors. Preferably, door **280** is pivotally mounted to front side **250** of hutch member **240** by a pair of hinges **282** (not shown). Preferably, hinges **282** are any suitable door hinges known within the art, so long as hinges **282** are capable of 15 pivotally mounting door **280** to hutch member **240** to permit the opening and closing of same.

Cutout **284** is preferably disposed and centered on door **280**, wherein the size and shape of cutout **284** preferably 20 depends on the size and shape of the plasma screen to be displayed, and wherein a larger cutout **284** is provided to display a larger plasma screen. In addition, speakers **281**, **283** and **285** (not shown) are preferably mounted to inner

wall 288 (not shown) of door 280, wherein door 280 preferably possesses cutouts 290, 292 and 294 to permit sound generated by speakers 281, 283 and 285 to exit hutch member 240. Preferably, speakers 281, 283 and 285 are 5 mounted directly beneath cutouts 290, 292 and 294, respectively, to permit maximum sound quality; however, it is recognized that any number of speakers could be positioned anywhere within hutch member 240. It is further contemplated in an alternate embodiment that door 280 could 10 possess any number and layout of cutouts wherein the cutouts could embody any suitable shapes/and or sizes so long as the cutouts preferably permit sound generated by speakers 281, 283 and 285 to exit hutch member 240.

15 Preferably, apparatus 10 is an air-ventilated apparatus for the storage and/or display of electronic devices, wherein cool air is convectively moved through apparatus 10 and over the electronic devices stored therein, thereby prolonging the life of the stored 20 electronic devices by reducing/eliminating the occurrence of overheating. More specifically, cool, dense air is preferably convectively drawn into apparatus 10 through lower cutouts 52, wherein the cool air is preferably

convectively drawn over the electronic devices stored within cabinet member **40**. Warm air produced by the stored electronic components is permitted to rise and preferably ventilate out of cabinet member **40** through upper cutouts **5 66**. Cabinet member **40** also preferably possesses cutout **196** on vertical divider **190** and cutouts **210**, **212** and **214** on shelf **200** for optimal airflow within cabinet member **40**. Furthermore, cutouts **52** are preferably positioned at the bottom front of cabinet member **40**, and cutouts **66** are **10** preferably positioned at the top rear of cabinet member **40** to maximize airflow over a greater area within cabinet member **40**. Cooler air is also preferably convectively drawn into hutch member **240** through bottom side **252**, wherein cooler air is convectively drawn over the stored **15** electronic devices, and wherein the warmer, lighter air produced by the electronic devices ventilates out of hutch member **240** through cutouts **260**.

Now referring to FIGS. 8-14, hutch member **300**, in an **20** alternate embodiment, generally comprises top wall **302**, rear wall **304**, sidewalls **306** and **307**, shelves **309**, and valence **311**, wherein top wall **302**, rear wall **304**, sidewalls **306** and **307**, shelves **309** and valence **311** are affixed

together by nails, screws, bolts, dowels, adhesive, or the like, to collectively form hutch member 300. Hutch member 300 is formed from wood and is mounted to cabinet member 40 by wood screws, nails, bolts, dowels, adhesive, or the like.

Top wall 302 is generally rectangular-shaped and possesses rounded front corners 310. Sidewalls 306 and 307 are rectangular-shaped and have rear edges 320 and 330 (not shown), respectively, and outer surfaces 322 and 332, respectively. Rear wall 304 is rectangular-shaped and comprises top edge 321 (not shown), left edge 330 (not shown) and right edge 340. Rear edge 320 of sidewall 306 is affixed to rear wall 304, wherein sidewall 306 is situated approximately 1.5 feet from left edge 330 of rear wall 304. Rear edge 330 of sidewall 307 is affixed to rear wall 304, wherein sidewall 307 is situated approximately 1.5 feet from right edge 340 of rear wall 304.

Affixed to outer surfaces 322 and 332 of sidewalls 306 and 307, respectively, are three equally spaced apart shelves 309, wherein shelves 309 are triangle-shaped and comprise first edge 350 (not shown) and second edge 360

(not shown), wherein first edge **350** is mounted to rear wall **304**, and wherein second edge **360** is selectively mounted to sidewall **306** or **307**.

5 Rear wall **304** possesses circular cutouts **370** and **372** (not shown), and rectangular cutouts **380** and **382** (not shown), wherein circular cutouts **370** and **372** permit managing of cables and/or wires therethrough, and wherein rectangular cutouts **380** and **382** are provided to receive
10 auxiliary control panels and/or electrical outlets.
Cutouts **370** and **372** are positioned proximate to top edge **320** of rear wall **304**, wherein cutout **370** is positioned proximate to sidewall **306**, and wherein cutout **372** is positioned proximate to sidewall **307**. Cutouts **380** and **382**
15 are horizontally aligned and positioned adjacent to sidewall **306**, wherein cutouts **380** and **382** are situated directly above a first lower shelf **309**.

Valence **311** is a rectangular-shaped wooden board for
20 concealing a projector screen, light fixtures, and/or other selected electronic devices and equipment. Valence **311** comprises first edge **392**, second edge **394** and third edge **396** (not shown), wherein first edge **392** is affixed to top

wall **302**, second edge **394** is affixed to sidewall **306**, and third edge **396** is affixed to sidewall **307**. Rear wall **304** also possesses open section **400**, wherein section **400** is situated below top wall **302** and between sidewalls **306** and 5 **307**, and wherein section **400** provides an area for mounting an electronic whiteboard, a plasma screen, or other selected display screen.

In another alternate embodiment, apparatus **10** could 10 embody a single structure having cabinet shelves, cabinet doors, and a means for displaying a display screen; wherein the single unitary structure possesses at least one cutout, at least one middle cutout, and at least one upper cutout for managing cables and convectively cooling stored 15 electronic devices.

In yet another alternate embodiment, apparatus **10** could comprise any number of base members **20**, cabinet members **40** and hutch members **240**.

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In yet another alternate embodiment, any number and layout of cutouts could be disposed on sidewalls **46**, **48**,

246 and/or **248**, and/or doors **230**, **232**, **234**, **236**, and/or **280**.

In still another alternate embodiment, cabinet member
5 **40** and/or hutch member **240** could be configured to store and
display more than one display screen.

In still another alternate embodiment, apparatus **10**
could possess built-in power outlets, extension cords
10 and/or lights.

In yet a further alternate embodiment, apparatus **10**
could be configured to stand freely without the assistance
of a wall or other support structure.

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In still a further alternate embodiment, apparatus **10**
could be formed from a semi-air-permeable, breathable
material.

Having thus described exemplary embodiments of the
present invention, it should be noted by those skilled in
the art that the within disclosures are exemplary only, and
that various other alternatives, adaptations, and

modifications may be made within the scope of the present invention. Accordingly, the present invention is not limited to the specific embodiments illustrated herein, but is limited only by the following claims.